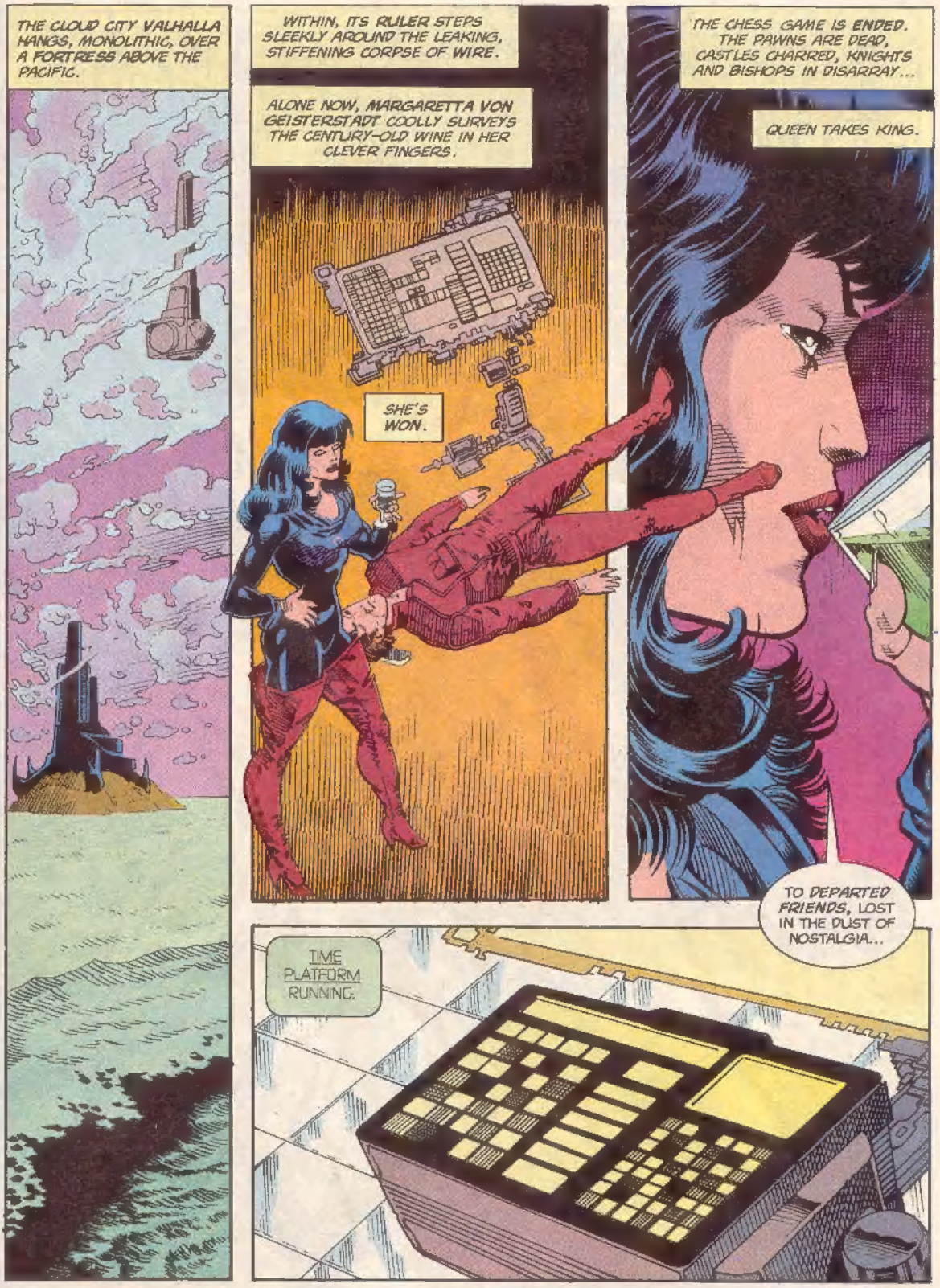
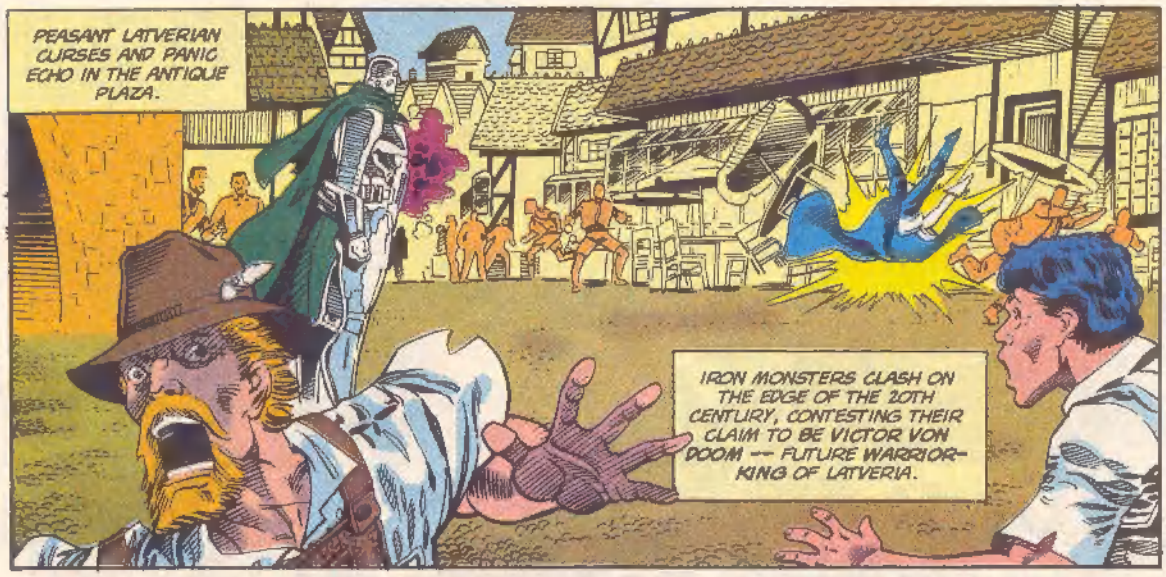
MARVEL COMICS
DOUBLE-SIZED 25TH ISSUE
DOOM 2099
$2.95 US
$4.00 CAN
25
JAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
PAT BRODERICK'94
NO.
DOUBLE SIZED ISSUE


THE CLOUD CITY VALHALLA HANGS, MONOLITHIC, OVER A FORTRESS ABOVE THE PACIFIC.
WITHIN, ITS RULER STEPS SLEEKLY AROUND THE LEAKING, STIFFENING CORPSE OF WIRE.
ALONE NOW, MARGARETTA VON GEISTERSTADT COOLLY SURVEYS THE CENTURY-OLD WINE IN HER CLEVER FINGERS.
SHE'S WON.
THE CHESS GAME IS ENDED. THE PAWNS ARE DEAD, CASTLES CHARRED, KNIGHTS AND BISHOPS IN DISARRAY...
QUEEN TAKES KING.
TO DEPARTED FRIENDS, LOST IN THE DUST OF NOSTALGIA...
TIME PLATFORM RUNNING.

DOOM 2099™ Vol. 1, No. 25, January, 1995. (ISSN #1068-8463) Published by MARVEL COMICS. Terry Stewart, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 Park AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10016 SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright © 1994 Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $2.95 per copy in the U.S. and $4.00 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: $35.50 U.S.; $30.00 foreign, and Canadian subscribers must add $10.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. DOOM 2099 (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO DOOM 2099, c/o MARVEL DIRECT MARKETING INC./SUBSCRIPTION DEPT., P.O. BOX 1979, DANBURY, CT 06813-1979. TELEPHONE # (203) 743-6331. PRINTED IN USA.

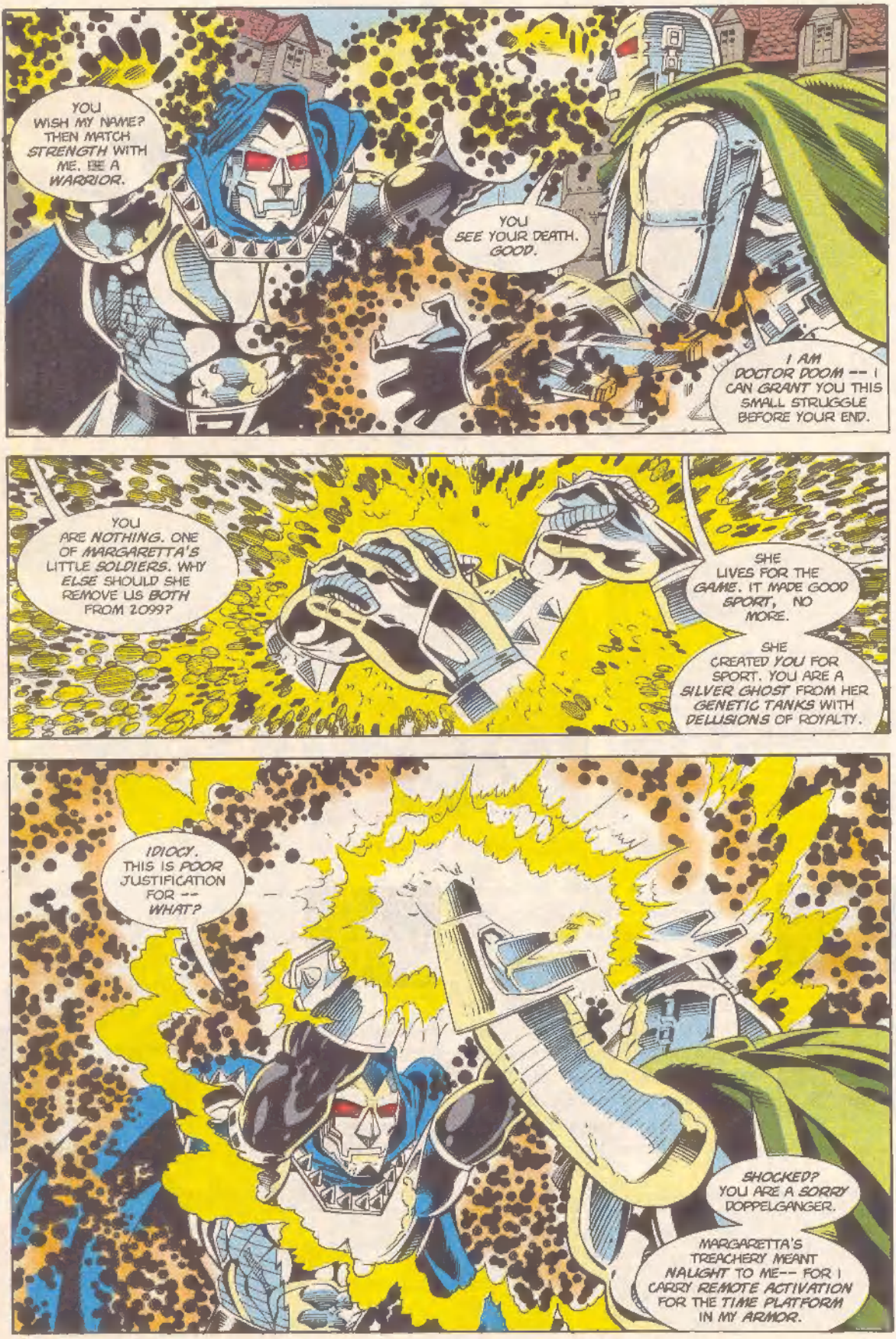

PEASANT LATVERIAN CURSES AND PANIC ECHO IN THE ANTIQUE PLAZA.
IRON MONSTERS CLASH ON THE EDGE OF THE 20TH CENTURY, CONTESTING THEIR CLAIM TO BE VICTOR VON DOOM -- FUTURE WARRIOR-KING OF LATVERIA.

< WERNER! >
< WERNER, COME AWAY! >
< BUT MOTHER -- THEIR MASKS -- >

< THEIR IRON MASKS -- >

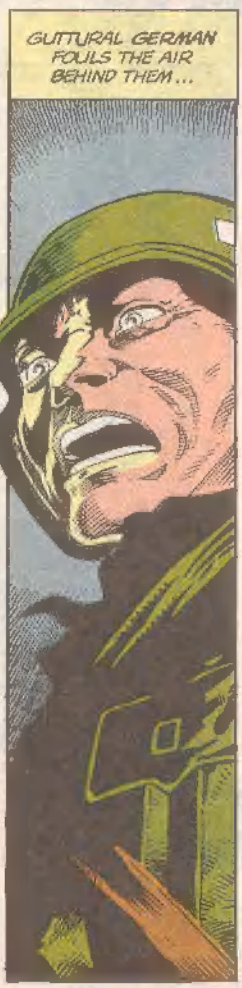
WERNER.
MY FATHER'S NAME.
I WONDER IF MY IMPERSONATOR APPRECIATES THE IRONY.

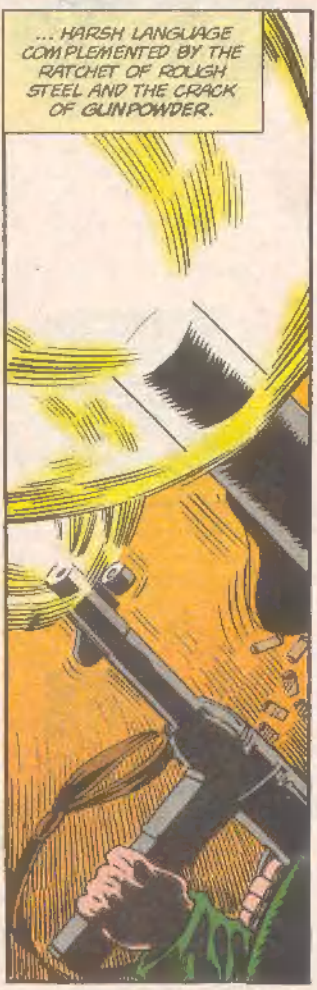
MY GRANDFATHER FASCINATED ME WITH HIS MARIONETTES, CREATING MY INTEREST IN ROBOTICS. MY FAVORITE PUPPET BORE AN IRON MASK.
WHEN MARGARETTA FIRED US BACK IN TIME TO BE RID OF ME, SHE INADVERTENTLY CREATED ME.
STILL. I MUST CONCENTRATE ON THIS BLACK-SHELLED LUNATIC CLAIMING TO BE ME.


YOU WISH MY NAME? THEN MATCH STRENGTH WITH ME. BE A WARRIOR.
YOU SEE YOUR DEATH. GOOD.
I AM DOCTOR DOOM -- I CAN GRANT YOU THIS SMALL STRUGGLE BEFORE YOUR END.
YOU ARE NOTHING. ONE OF MARGARETTA'S LITTLE SOLDIERS. WHY ELSE SHOULD SHE REMOVE US BOTH FROM 2099?
SHE LIVES FOR THE GAME. IT MADE GOOD SPORT, NO MORE.
SHE CREATED YOU FOR SPORT. YOU ARE A SILVER GHOST FROM HER GENETIC TANKS WITH DELUSIONS OF ROYALTY.
IDIOCY. THIS IS POOR JUSTIFICATION FOR -- WHAT?
SHOCKED? YOU ARE A SORRY DOPPELGANGER.
MARGARETTA'S TREACHERY MEANT NAUGHT TO ME-- FOR I CARRY REMOTE ACTIVATION FOR THE TIME PLATFORM IN MY ARMOR.

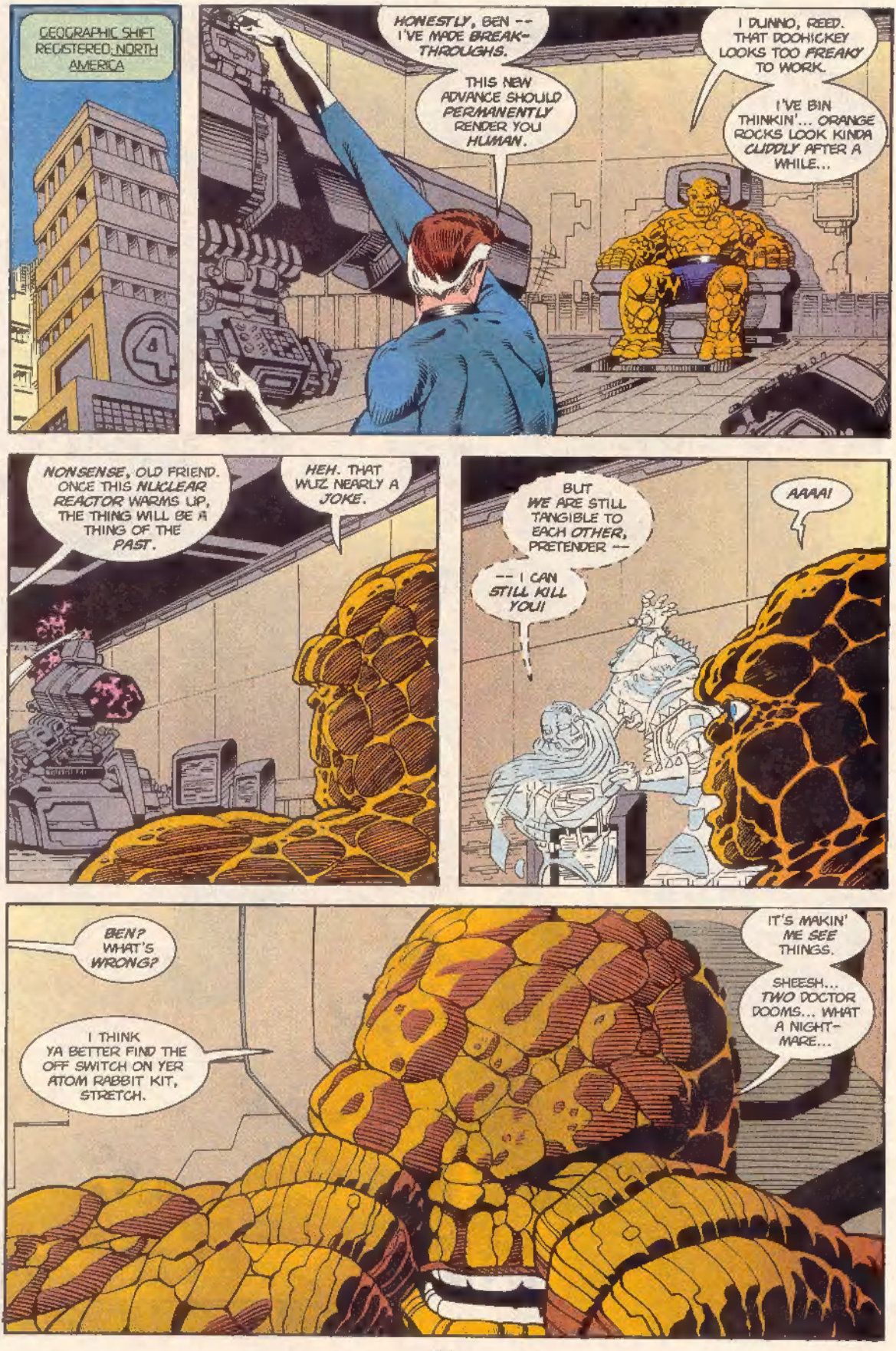
TIME PLATFORM RUNNING, 1942
ONCE YOU ARE DISPOSED OF, I CAN TRANSFER TO 2099 AT MY LEISURE.

DIE WITH THE TRUTH IN YOUR FIST!
YOU ARE NOT DOOM! YOU CANNOT BE DOOM!
I AM THE CORRECT AGE, AND HEAVY WITH THE STRENGTH OF WISDOM — YOU ARE YOUNG AND WEAK!

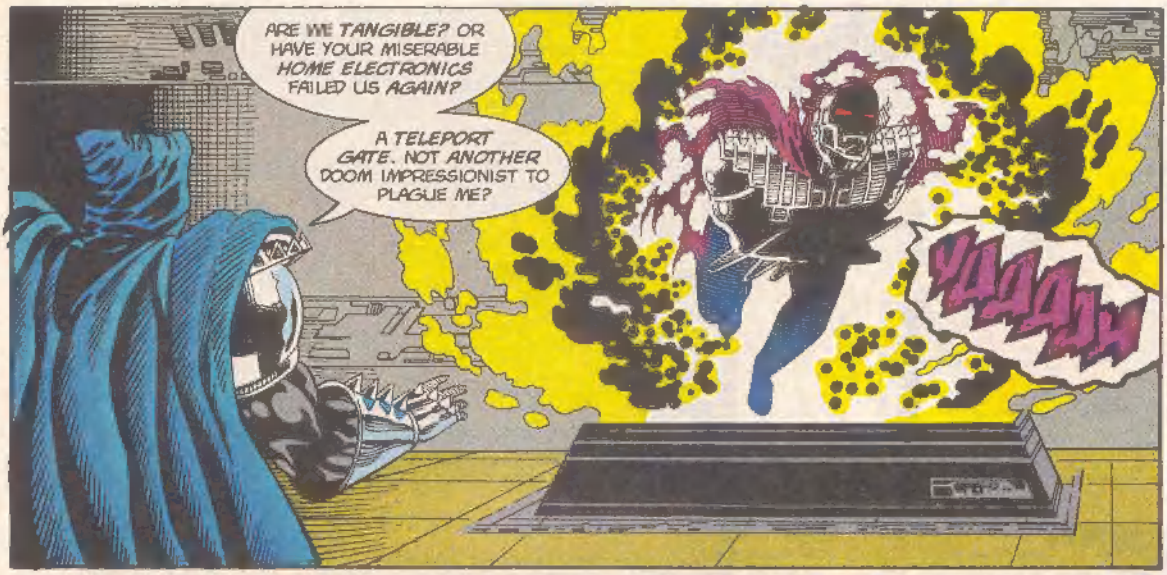

GUTTURAL GERMAN FOULS THE AIR BEHIND THEM...

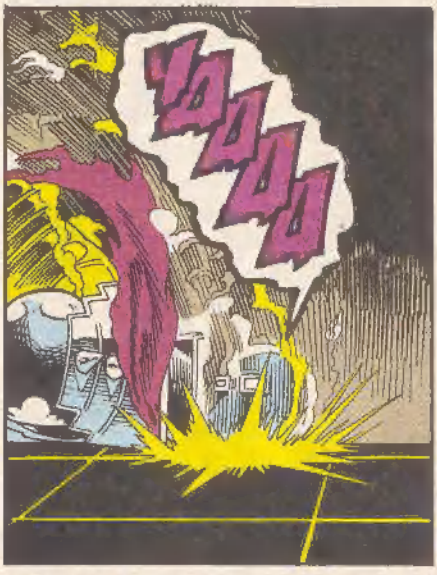

...HARSH LANGUAGE COMPLEMENTED BY THE RATCHET OF ROUGH STEEL AND THE CRACK OF GUNPOWDER.

THE BULLETS — I DON'T UNDERSTAND —
— HOW THEY ARE PASSING THROUGH US?
YOUR TIMETRAVEL ARRAYS ARE EVIDENTLY INCORRECT.
WE ARE NOT FULLY MATERIALIZING DUE TO BAD WIRING, YOU SORRY DOPPELGANGER.
NOT A MISTAKE I WOULD HAVE MADE, BUT, THEN —
— I AM DOOM.
NAZI MINDS REEL AS THE TWIN UBERSOLDATS SPLASH THROUGH OCCUPIED LATVERIA INTO A STINGING FAST FORWARD OF LIGHT AND NOISE.
UPSTREAM OF WORLD WAR TWO, THE MADDENED CIRCUITRY OF THE TIME PLATFORM TUGS AT THEIR MARIONETTE STRINGS.


GEOGRAPHIC SHIFT REGISTERED: NORTH AMERICA
HONESTLY, BEN -- I'VE MADE BREAK-THROUGHS.
THIS NEW ADVANCE SHOULD PERMANENTLY RENDER YOU HUMAN.
I DUNNO, REED. THAT DOOHICKEY LOOKS TOO FREAKY TO WORK.
I'VE BIN THINKIN'... ORANGE ROCKS LOOK KINDA CUDDLY AFTER A WHILE...
NONSENSE, OLD FRIEND. ONCE THIS NUCLEAR REACTOR WARMS UP, THE THING WILL BE A THING OF THE PAST.
HEH. THAT WUZ NEARLY A JOKE.
BUT WE ARE STILL TANGIBLE TO EACH OTHER, PRETENDER --
-- I CAN STILL KILL YOU!
AAAA!
BEN? WHAT'S WRONG?
I THINK YA BETTER FIND THE OFF SWITCH ON YER ATOM RABBIT KIT, STRETCH.
IT'S MAKIN' ME SEE THINGS.
SHEESH... TWO DOCTOR DOOMS... WHAT A NIGHT-MARE...

2099; BITSCRAPS OF DATA RAIN THROUGH THE UPPER REACHES OF CYBERSPACE.
THE DRIZZLE OF INFORMATION BECOMES A STORM, BUILDING A LAKE IN THE ELECTRIC WORLD.
THE LAKE FILLS ITS REMEMBERED SHAPE TO THE BRIM.
LAST DROPLETS OF MEMORY IMPACT ON THE MENISCUS OF HIS SKIN.
BITMAPPED LUNGS INFLATE, DRAWING IN THE MATHEMATICS OF CYBERSPACE AIR.
HE HAS NO BODY, NO MEAT--- BUT HE LIVES.
ONCE, A MAN NAMED STRATOSPHERE APPENDED A UNIQUE PROGRAM TO WIRE'S CYBERSPATIAL FORM.
HE CALLED IT "A GET-OUT-OF-JAIL-FREE CARD."
NEWLY EXISTING ALONE AS MIND WITHOUT MEAT, WIRE SEES THE TRUTH OF IT...

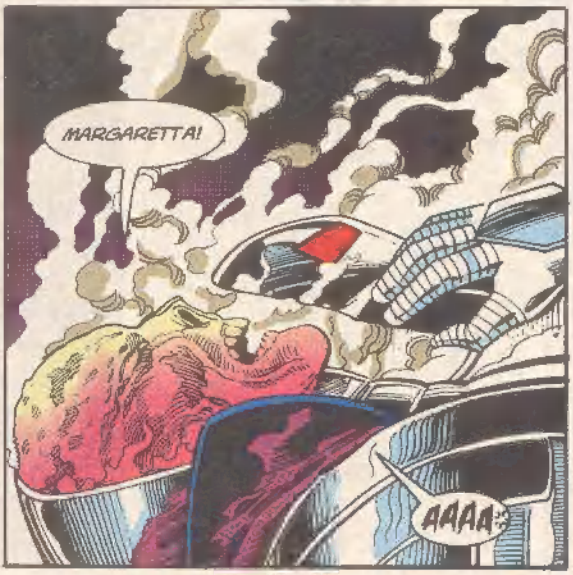

ARE WE TANGIBLE? OR HAVE YOUR MISERABLE HOME ELECTRONICS FAILED US AGAIN?
A TELEPORT GATE. NOT ANOTHER DOOM IMPRESSIONIST TO PLAGUE ME?
YAAAAH

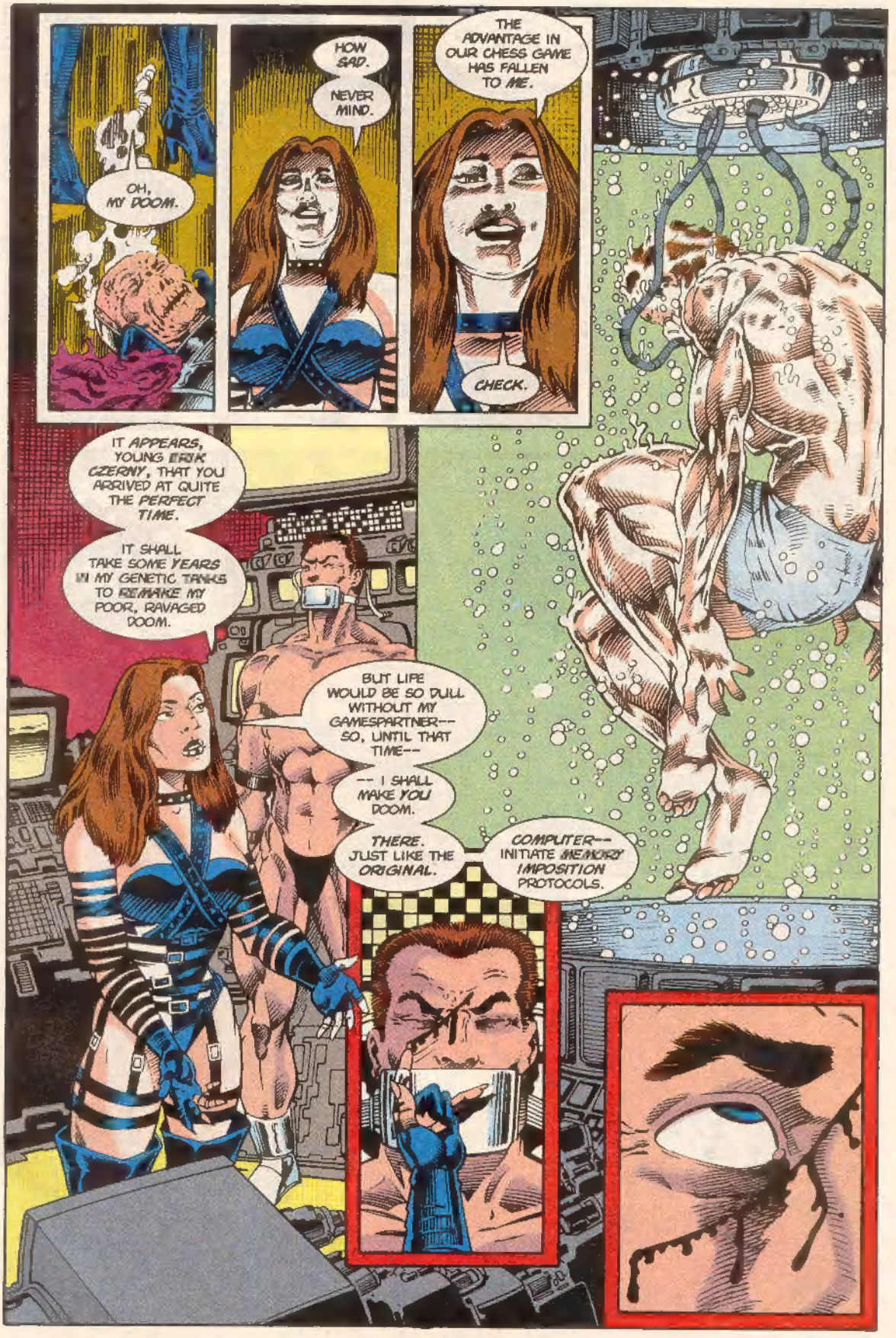

YAAAA

I DON'T... RECOLLECT THIS EVENT.

I... BELIEVE I DO. MISTILY, IN THE MODE OF DÉJÀ VU.

MARGARETTA!
ARMOR WON'T RESPOND— INTERNAL FIRES— ESCAPE SYSTEMS SLAGGED—


MARGARETTA!
AAAA


OH, MY DOOM.
HOW SAD.
NEVER MIND.
THE ADVANTAGE IN OUR CHESS GAME HAS FALLEN TO ME.
CHECK.
IT APPEARS, YOUNG ERIK CZERNY, THAT YOU ARRIVED AT QUITE THE PERFECT TIME.
IT SHALL TAKE SOME YEARS IN MY GENETIC TANKS TO REMAKE MY POOR, RAVAGED DOOM.
BUT LIFE WOULD BE SO DULL WITHOUT MY GAMESPARTNER-- SO, UNTIL THAT TIME--
-- I SHALL MAKE YOU DOOM.
THERE. JUST LIKE THE ORIGINAL.
COMPUTER-- INITIATE MEMORY IMPOSITION PROTOCOLS.

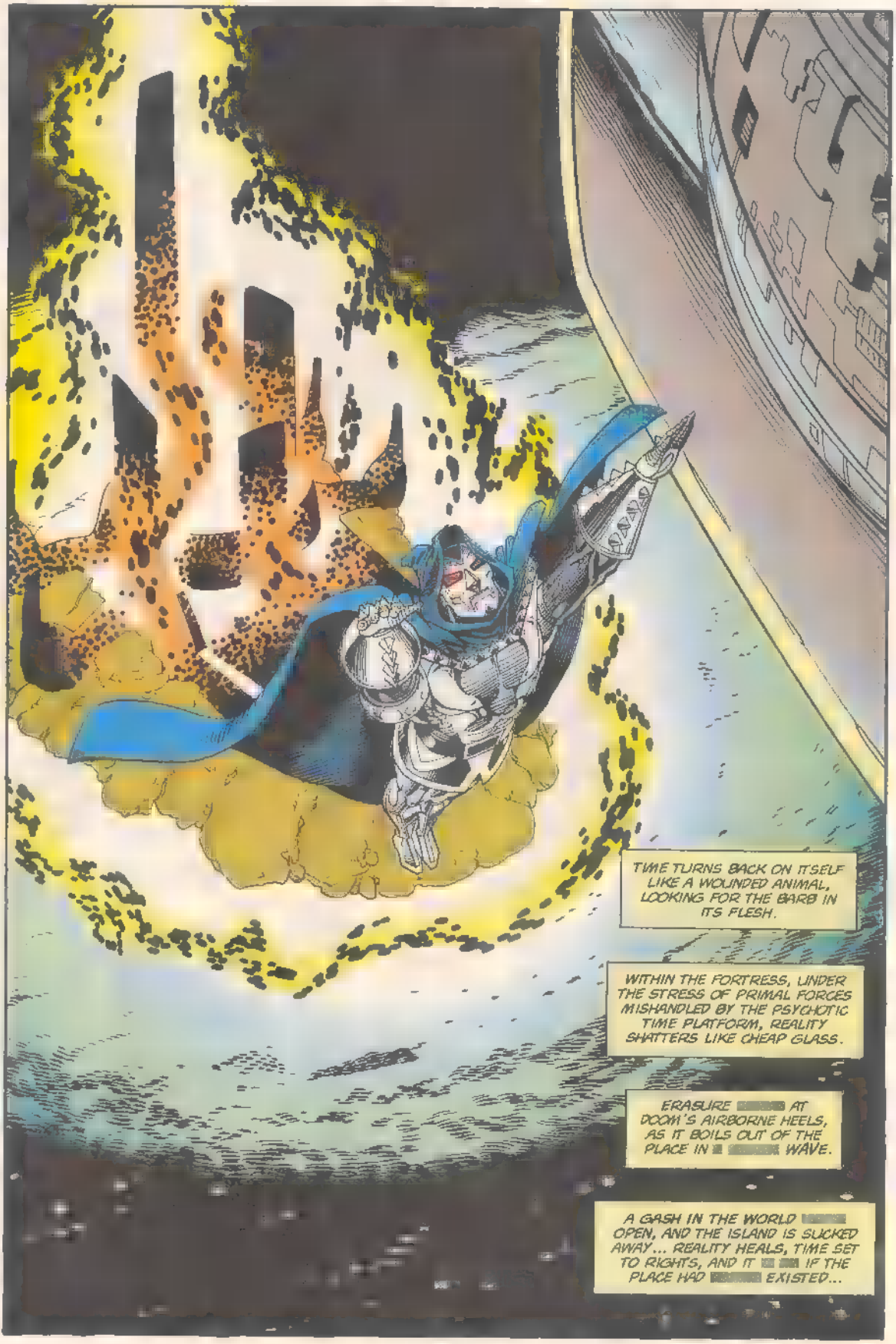
ONE MAN AGED TEN YEARS OR MORE AS "DOOM" -- THE OTHER WAS REGENERATED OVER THAT SAME TIME...
NO! THIS IS A LIE!
MARGARETTA! YOU LYING SACK OF FILTH! TALK TO ME!
CAN'T YOU SEE ME? CAN'T YOU HEAR? I AM YOUR DOOM!
IS THIS ME?
AM I DOOM?
YES.

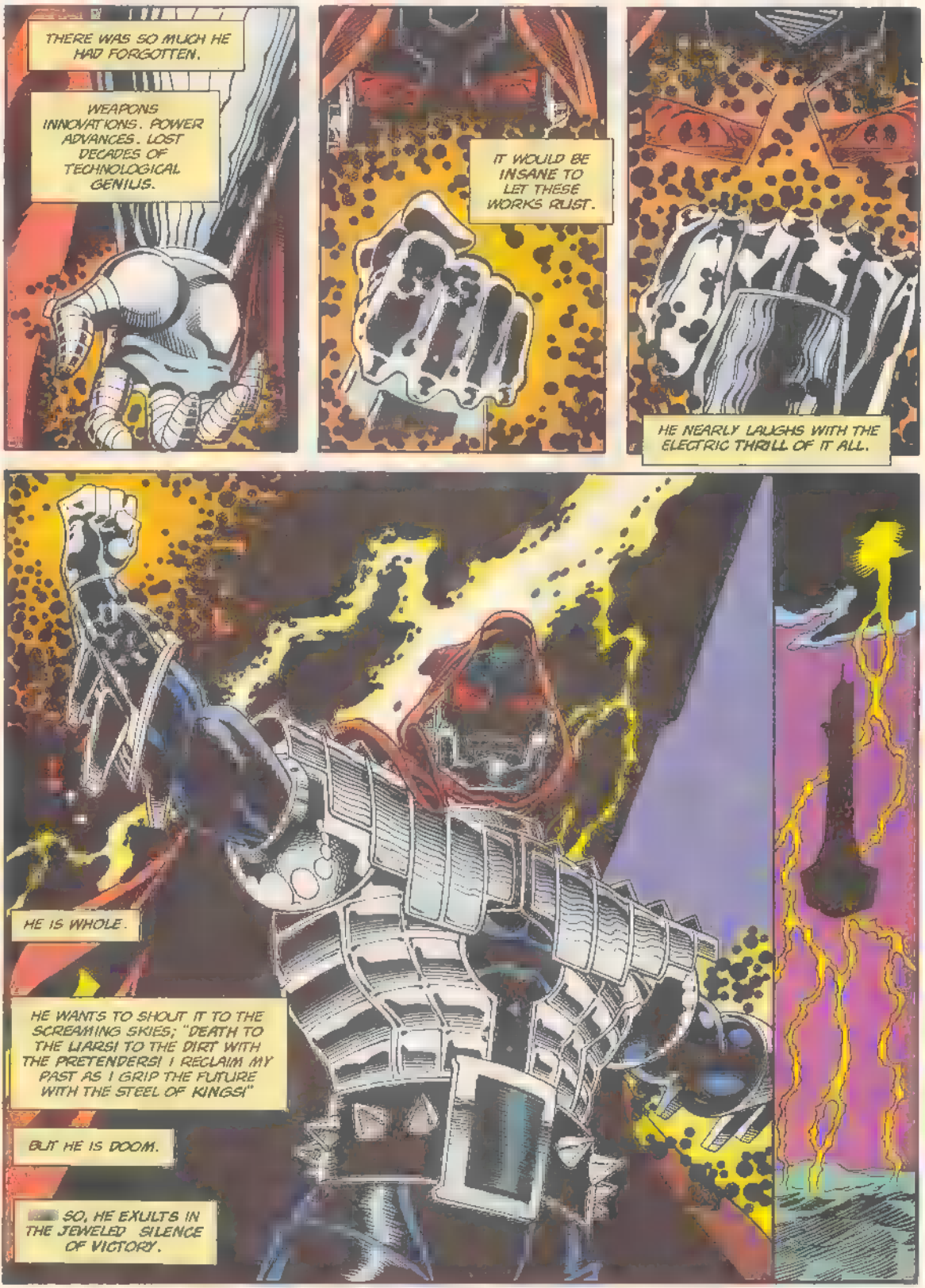
FALSE MEMORY IMPOSITION ACHIEVED
RANDOM MEMORY PARTIAL TRANSFER TO MEMORY DONOR ACHIEVED
AUTOMATIC ARMORING ROUTINE ENGAGED
NO.
NONONO-NOWO.
THIS CANNOT BE.
CLANK
DENIAL IS THE LAST OUTPOST OF THE DOOMED.
I NOW CONTROL YOUR ARMOR.
MAKE NO SUDDEN MOVES. THE TEMPTATION TO ELECTROCUTE YOU IN YOUR SHELL IS ALMOST OVER-WHELMING.
FROM HERE, I CAN REWIRE YOUR TIME ARRAYS --
-- REROUTING YOUR APPALLING WORKMANSHIP'S IGNITION UNIT TO MY ARMOR,
NONO-NONONO-NOOO --
SILENCE!

AND, IN LEAVING...
... I SHALL RECLAIM A FINAL PIECE OF MY PAST.
THE ARMOR —
TIME PLATFORM RUNNING,
2099

MARGARETTA.
MY DOOM.
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW MANY NIGHTS I'VE SPENT, FANTASIZING ABOUT THIS...
...THE CZERNY CREATURE WAS SMALL CONSOLATION... BUT NOW --
WHY DID YOU DO THIS TO ME?
THE GAME, OF COURSE. YOU MUST REMEMBER.
YOU AND I, DESPITE OUR POWER, FOUND THIS WORLD DULL. SO WE CREATED CHALLENGES FOR ONE ANOTHER.
I ADMIT, I ADDED SPICE TO THIS SPORT BY SCATTERING CZERNY'S MEMORIES AMONG YOUR OWN, BUT --
DON'T TOUCH ME.
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU OVERCAME THE HANDICAP! WE'RE TOGETHER AGAIN!
THIS IS THE GAME!
I AM DOOM.
AND I DO NOT PLAY GAMES.

THEREFORE, I AM TAKING MY TOYS AND GOING HOME.
RECALLING YOUR WEAPONRY OUTSIDE, IT AMUSES ME TO DEPART INTANGIBLY VIA PHASE SHIFTER.
IF YOU MUST PLAY YOUR PUERILE, VICIOUS GAMES, MARGARETTA, I WOULD ADVISE YOU THAT YOUR ISLAND HOLDS ONE LAST CHALLENGE.
YOUR PET THERE DISASTROUSLY MISALIGNED HIS TIMETRAVEL EQUIPMENT, DRIVING THE PLATFORM INTO PSYCHOSIS.
NONONONO
ITS TRAVEL FIELDS ARE FOLDING IN ON THEMSELVES. THE FEEDBACK WILL ■ QUITE TERMINAL.
I'M SURE YOU APPRECIATE THE SPORT ■ FINDING A WAY OFF YOUR LITTLE FORTRESS BEFORE IT IS SWALLOWED UP BY TIMEQUAKES.
DOOM! THIS ISN'T HOW WE PLAY THE GAME.!
DOOM!
DOOM!


TIME TURNS BACK ON ITSELF LIKE A WOUNDED ANIMAL, LOOKING FOR THE BARB IN ITS FLESH.
WITHIN THE FORTRESS, UNDER THE STRESS OF PRIMAL FORCES MISHANDLED BY THE PSYCHOTIC TIME PLATFORM, REALITY SHATTERS LIKE CHEAP GLASS.
ERASURE [illegible] AT DOOM'S AIRBORNE HEELS, AS IT BOILS OUT OF THE PLACE IN [illegible] WAVE.
A GASH IN THE WORLD [illegible] OPEN, AND THE ISLAND IS SUCKED AWAY... REALITY HEALS, TIME SET TO RIGHTS, AND IT [illegible] IF THE PLACE HAD [illegible] EXISTED...


THERE WAS SO MUCH HE HAD FORGOTTEN.
WEAPONS INNOVATIONS. POWER ADVANCES. LOST DECADES OF TECHNOLOGICAL GENIUS.
IT WOULD BE INSANE TO LET THESE WORKS RUST.
HE NEARLY LAUGHS WITH THE ELECTRIC THRILL OF IT ALL.
HE IS WHOLE.
HE WANTS TO SHOUT IT TO THE SCREAMING SKIES; "DEATH TO THE LIARS! TO THE DIRT WITH THE PRETENDERS! I RECLAIM MY PAST AS I GRIP THE FUTURE WITH THE STEEL OF KINGS!"
BUT HE IS DOOM.
SO, HE EXULTS IN THE JEWELED SILENCE OF VICTORY.

"Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith..."

1 Timothy 1:4

BULLPEN BULLETINS

ProFile: SCOTT LOBDELL

For the past several years, **Scott Lobdell** has been quietly toiling away each month as the writer of the UNCANNY X-MEN. This year, he launched Marvel's biggest hit of the year, the all-new mutant book, GENERATION: X! Scott, who works as a stand-up comedian in addition to his work for Marvel, got his start in comics a few years back, with countless stories for WHAT THE — ?! and MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS. (It's been said that Scott has written more Captain Ultra stories than any writer alive, and we can't find anyone willing to dispute that!) As one of the industry's most-read writers, we just had to profile him before he got so big he wouldn't return our calls!

Where and when were you born?
With my mother, on my birthday.
Which Marvel Comic would you most like to work on?
The Captain Ultra swimsuit edition.
Who are some of your favorite performers?
Micha Espinosa: actress, torch song singer, and best friend.
How long have you been in the business?
What time is it?
What comics have you worked on in the past?
I was head hieroglyphic coordinator on X-MEN 2099 B.C.
What is the oddest piece of clothing you own?
Everything. (Honest.)
Heard any good jokes lately?
Yes.
What's the one thing nobody knows about you?
I want to play Henry Higgins in "My Fair Lady," opposite Broadway star Melissa Errico.
Who do you think is funny?
Micha's imitation of Sean Connery, J. Steven Cassles, Dennis Hogan, any member of my family, and Jerry Seinfeld.
How is GENERATION: X different from the other X-titles?
The "X" comes at the END of the title.
What's your friend Gilbert Gottfried really like?
Like chicken.
Which Marvel staffer does the best impression of you?
Mike Rockwitz (but Mark Powers tries really hard).

THE HYPE BOX

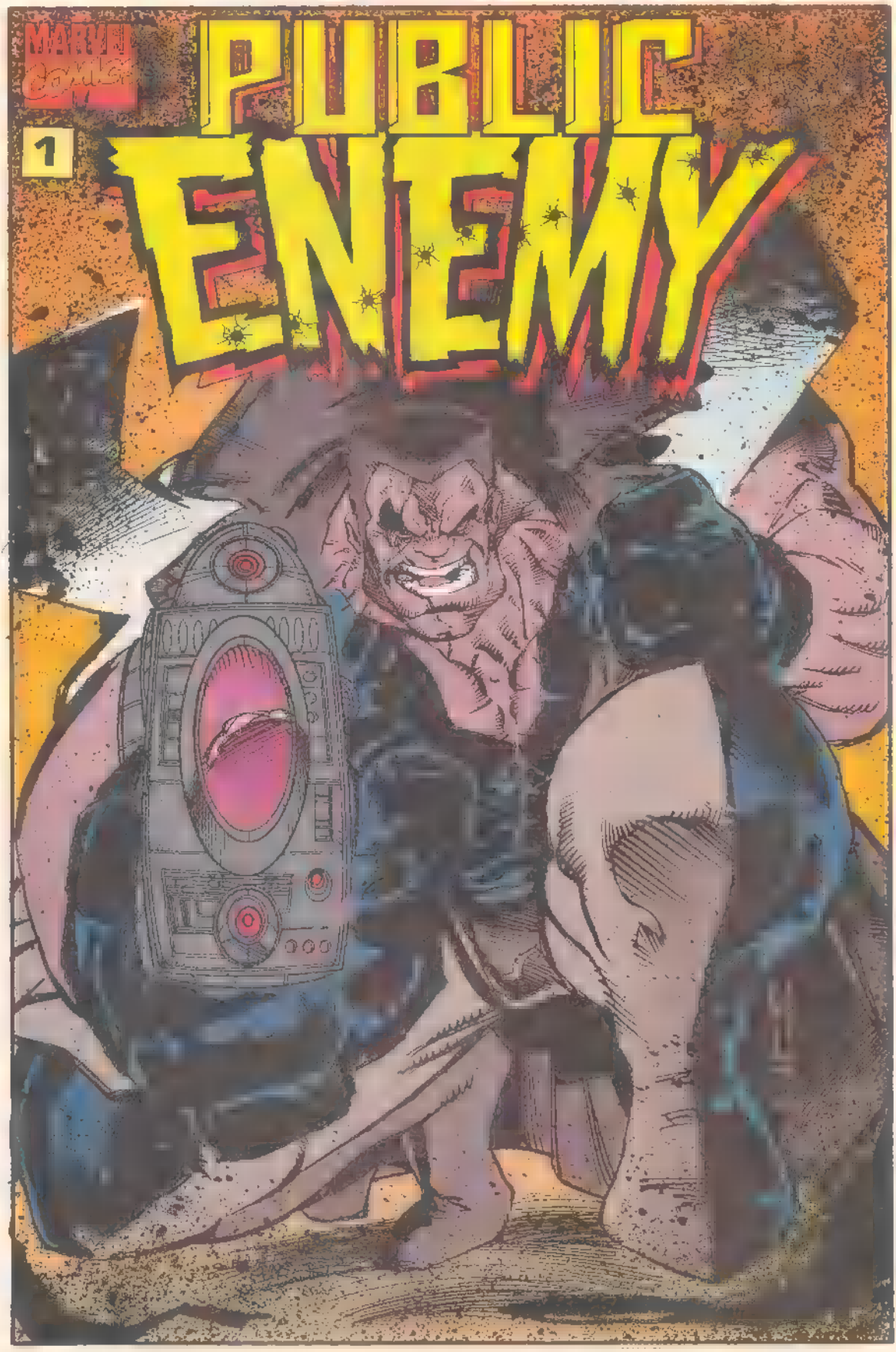
"We've got a real potpourri of stories this year," says Associate Editor **Sarra Mossoff**, beaming about this year's MARVEL HOLIDAY SPECIAL. Sarra noted that all the stories deal "with the holiday spirit," and that the creators are "from 16 different places on the spectrum of comics."

The lead feature is a festive Beast/Ice Man story by **Kurt Busiek** and **James Fry**. Also included are: a Santa-rific Silver Surfer saga by **Marc DeMatteis** and **Rick Leonardi**; a jolly Captain America mini-epic by **John Ostrander** and **Tom Mandrake**; a Yule-tide Thing tale by **Greg Wright** and **Mike Manley**; and rounding out the package is a "cute little X-Men story" called "The Night Before X-Mas" by **Karl Bollers** and **Ron Buscema**. The issue features a cover by **George Perez**! Sarra concluded by saying that she is "real excited" about this year's HOLIDAY SPECIAL, and that it left her with "a warm fuzzy feeling." Buy a copy for yourself, and stuff a copy in your friend's stocking, too. Help spread that warm, fuzzy feeling!

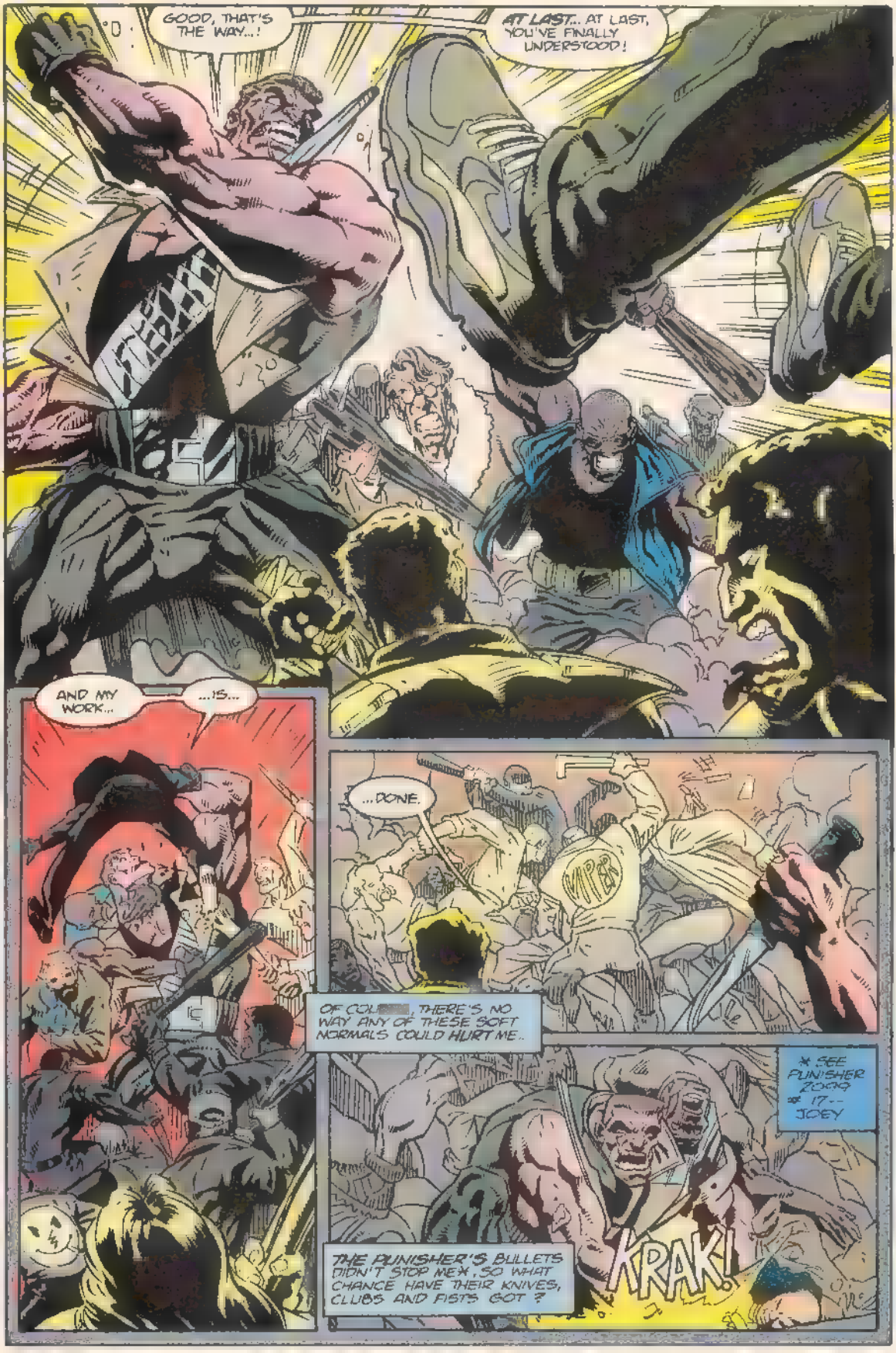
HULK #425, on sale this week, features a new art team! A new direction! A new incarnation of the Hulk! All in a double-sized issue printed on deluxe glossy paper with a special hologram cover! According to editor **Bobbie Chase**, "Writer **Peter David** orchestrates the whole thing while artists **Gary Frank** and **Cam Smith** conduct the first half, then pass the artistic baton onto **Liam Sharp** and **Robin Rigg**. It's a moving symphony with a shocking finale!" Sounds Hulkerrific to us!

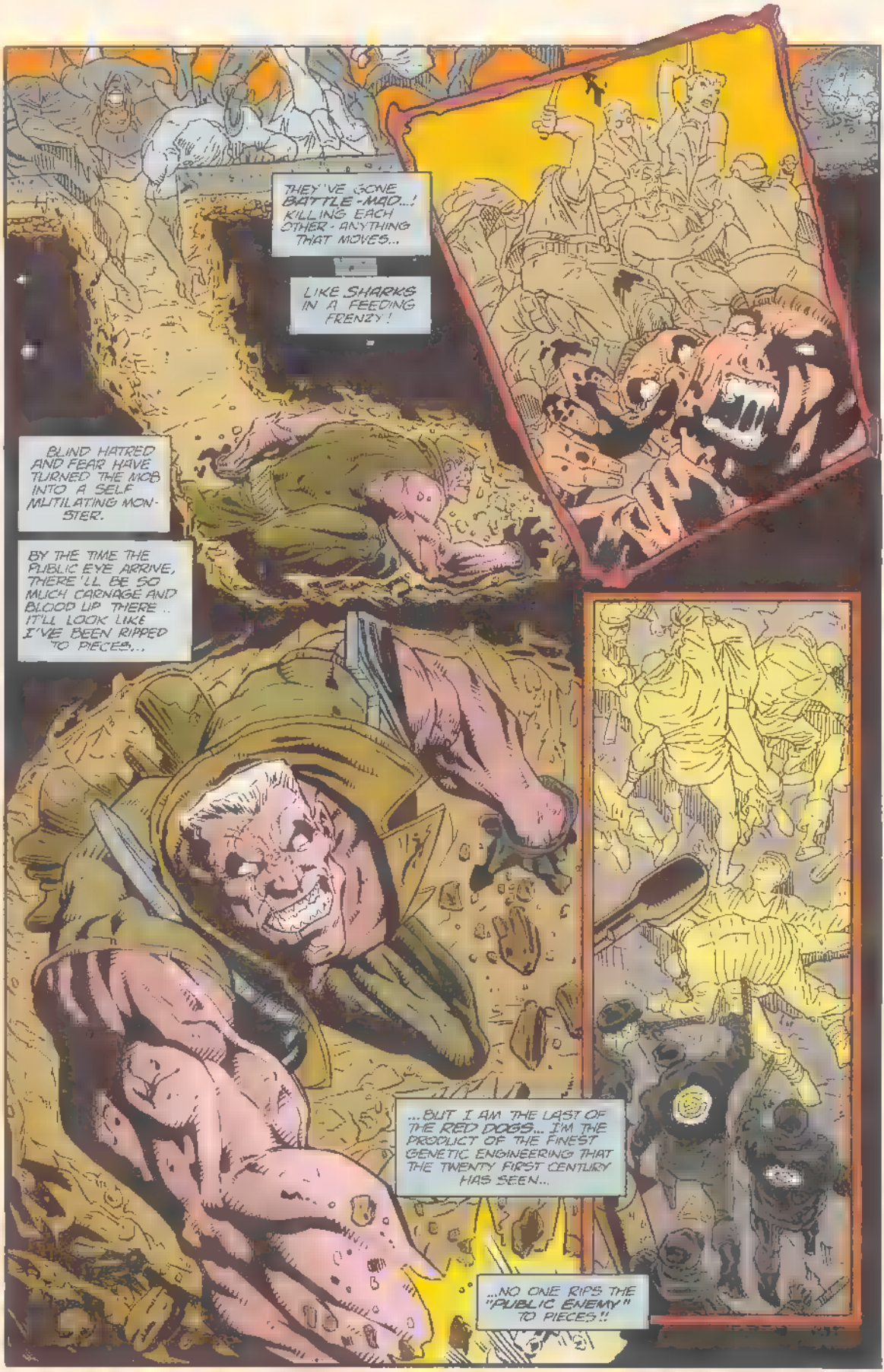
NOW ON SALE

- **ALADDIN #4:** Can Aladdin be trusted? Do carpets fly? By Nording/Riguard/Albrecht!
- **AVENGERS Quicksilver** uncovers some shocking secrets from his past! By Harras/Deodato/Palmer!
- **DOUBLE FEATURE #4 Giant-Man** faces a giant plague problem! By Perez/J. Moore!
- **BEAVIS & BUTT-HEAD #11:** Thanksgiving at Stewart's house really sucks! By Maxton-Graham/Parker!
- **#19:** The **Dark Ride** is over! Everybody out! By Loeb/Skroce/Sellers!
- **CLAN DESTINE #4:** The family that knocks heads together, stays together! By Davis/Farmer!
- **CONAN THE ADVENTURER** You've got the sorcery, he's got the sword!! By Thomas/Wallace!
- **WHO: CLASSIC COMICS #27:** Four doctors, no waiting!
- **DOOM #25:** It's Doom vs. Doom, and the loser is doomed! Really! By J.F. Moore/Broderick/Nyberg!
- **EXCALIBUR Kitty** fights **Nightcrawler**! Who gets the Soulsword? By Ellis/Lashley/Wegryzn!
- **GHOST RIDER 2099 #9:** Ghost Rider stalks who made him a ghost! By Kaminski/Buckingham!
- **INCREDIBLE HULK** The most savage issue of all! Miss it not! By David/Frank & Sharp/Smith & Riggs!
- **MARVEL ACTION HOUR: FANTASTIC FOUR #3: The Puppet Master** strikes! By Cavalieri/Alcatena!
- **MARVEL ACTION HOUR: IRON MAN Ultimo** is on his ultimate rampage! By Fein/Williams/Nyberg!
- **MARVEL HOLIDAY SPECIAL:** Celebrate X-Mas with **Captain America** and the **X-Men**!
- **MARVEL SUPER MEGAZINE:** 96 pages of **Hulk**, Daredevil, and more!
- **MIDNIGHT SONS UNLIMITED** Guest-starring **Man-Thing** and **Witch**! By Abnett/various artists!
- **Morbius's** funeral brings out a host of hard-hitting mourners! By Trusiani/Gilmore/Bryant!
- **NOVA #13:** Nova wants to fight **Deathstorm**? He'd better start training! By Marrinan/Stegbauer!
- **PUNISHER #98:** Hey, Build your own Punisher, like Micro does in this ish! By Dixon/Whigham!
- **PUNISHER HOLIDAY SPECIAL #3:** Frank protects an orphan for the holidays! By Dixon & Lackey/Eaglesham & Goeler/Redding & Percy!
- **& STIMPY SPECIAL:** Four Swerks: Four times the By Slott & Dutter/Mitchroney & Kazaleh!
- **SABRETOOTH CLASSICS Wolvie** vs. Sabretooth! May the sharpest claws win! By Claremont/Davis/Neary!
- **SPIDER-MAN #54:** A mysterious figure from the past stalks the Spider-clone! By Mackie/Lyle/Hannal
- **SPIDER-MAN #10:** Two holiday stories — one with **Jubilee**!
- **UNCANNY X-MEN #320:** Everything seems foreign as **Legion** flees to Israel! By Lobdell/Cruz/Green!
- **WARLOCK & THE INFINITY #36: Strange** wants Infinity Gems! By Skolnick/Sullivan!
- **WHAT IF #69: Stryfe** kills the **X-Men**! Mutant mayhem, you like it! By M. Nicieza/Justiniano!
- **X-MEN 2099 #18:** Step right up, folks — the X-Men return to the **Freakshow**! By Moore/Lim/Candelario!
- **X-MEN DELUXE #40: Legion** wants to erase the X-Men from existence! By F. Nicieza/Andy Kubert/Ryan!
- **X-MEN SPECTACULAR: A MUTANT CALLED LEGION OF 4:** For all his legions of fans! By Claremont/Sienkiewicz & Cockrum/various artists!

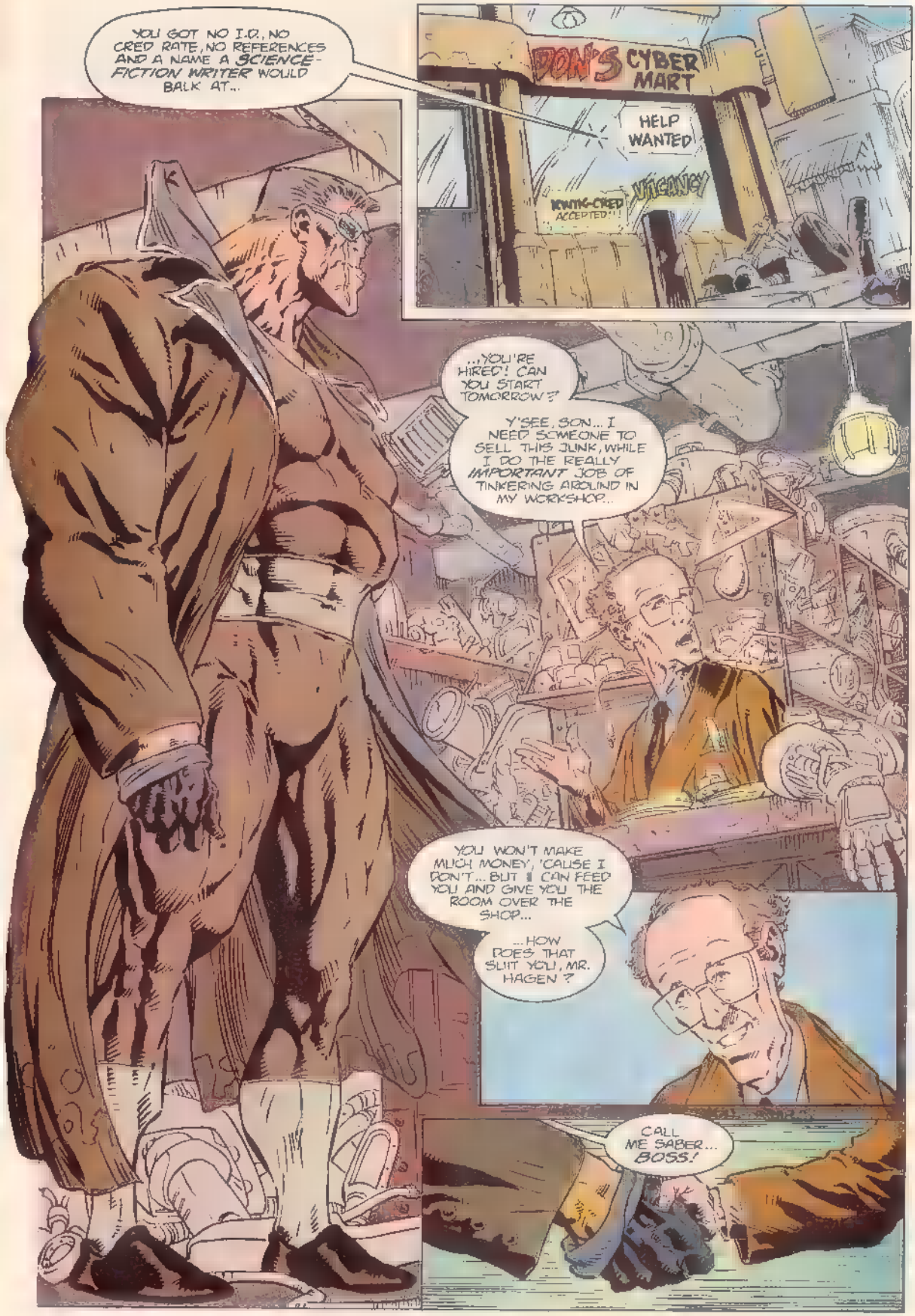

MARVEL COMICS
1
PUBLIC ENEMY

YES! ATTACK ME! KILL ME! AVENGE YOURSELVES! STOP ME FROM HARMING YOUR FAMILIES!
...YOU HAVE TO DO IT YOURSELVES!
...ONLY YOU CAN STOP THE--
PUBLIC ENEMY!
SEEING RED
PAT MILLS
TOM SKINNER
WRITERS
LUKE ROSS
PENCILER
KEITH WILLIAMS
INKER
DAVE SHARPE
LETTERER
IAN LAUGHLIN
COLORIST
JOEY CAVALIERI
EDITOR
TOM DEFALCO
PUBLIC ENEMY


GOOD, THAT'S THE WAY...!
AT LAST... AT LAST, YOU'VE FINALLY UNDERSTOOD!
AND MY WORK...
...IS...
...DONE.
OF COU[redacted], THERE'S NO WAY ANY OF THESE SOFT NORMALS COULD HURT ME..
* SEE PUNISHER ZONE #17-- JOEY
THE PUNISHER'S BULLETS DIDN'T STOP ME, SO WHAT CHANCE HAVE THEIR KNIVES, CLUBS AND FISTS GOT?
KRAK!

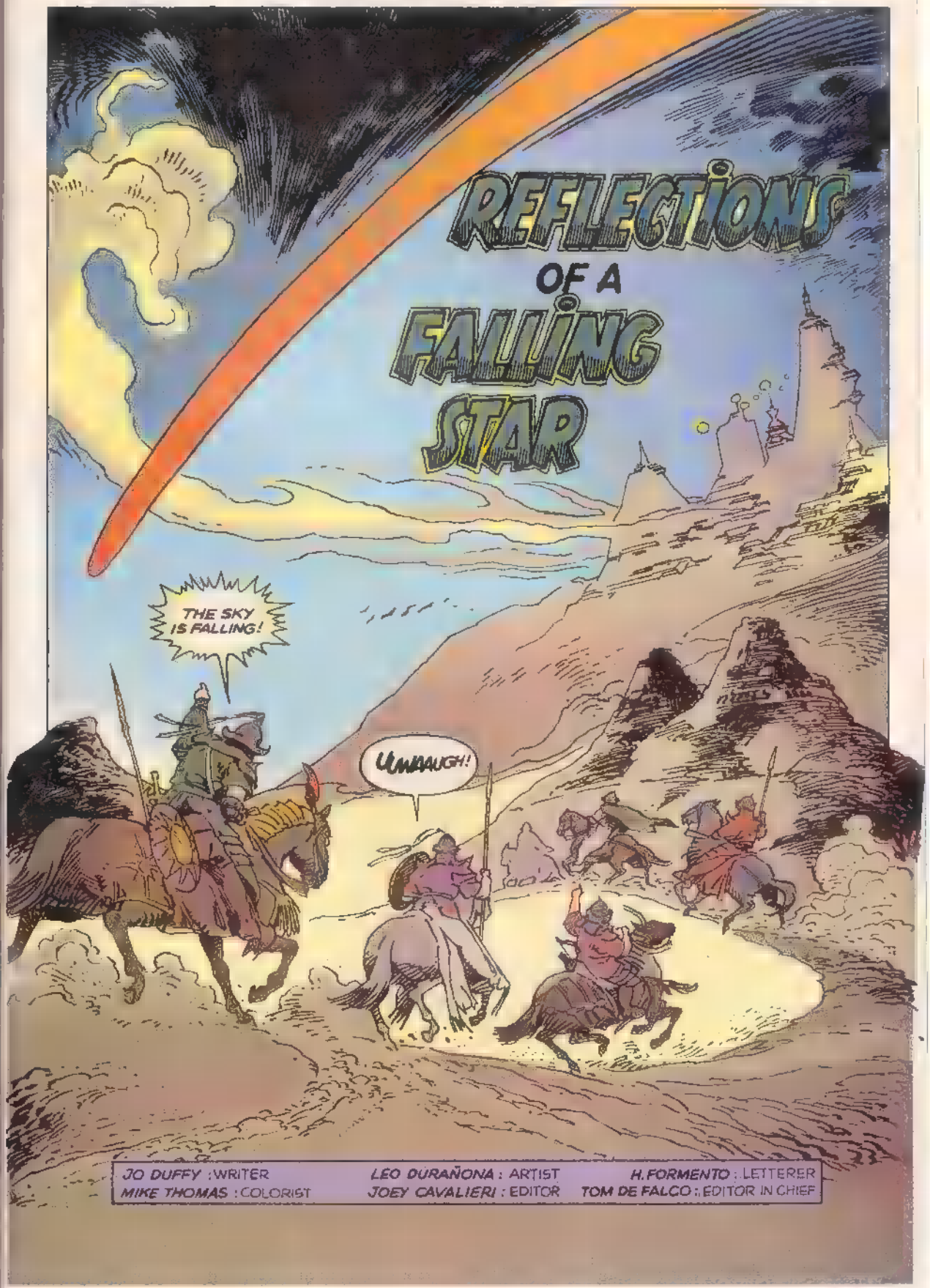

THEY'VE GONE BATTLE-MAD...! KILLING EACH OTHER - ANYTHING THAT MOVES...
LIKE SHARKS IN A FEEDING FRENZY!
BLIND HATRED AND FEAR HAVE TURNED THE MOB INTO A SELF MUTILATING MONSTER.
BY THE TIME THE PUBLIC EYE ARRIVE, THERE'LL BE SO MUCH CARNAGE AND BLOOD UP THERE .. IT'LL LOOK LIKE I'VE BEEN RIPPED TO PIECES...
...BUT I AM THE LAST OF THE RED DOGS... I'M THE PRODUCT OF THE FINEST GENETIC ENGINEERING THAT THE TWENTY FIRST CENTURY HAS SEEN...
...NO ONE RIPS THE "PUBLIC ENEMY" TO PIECES!!

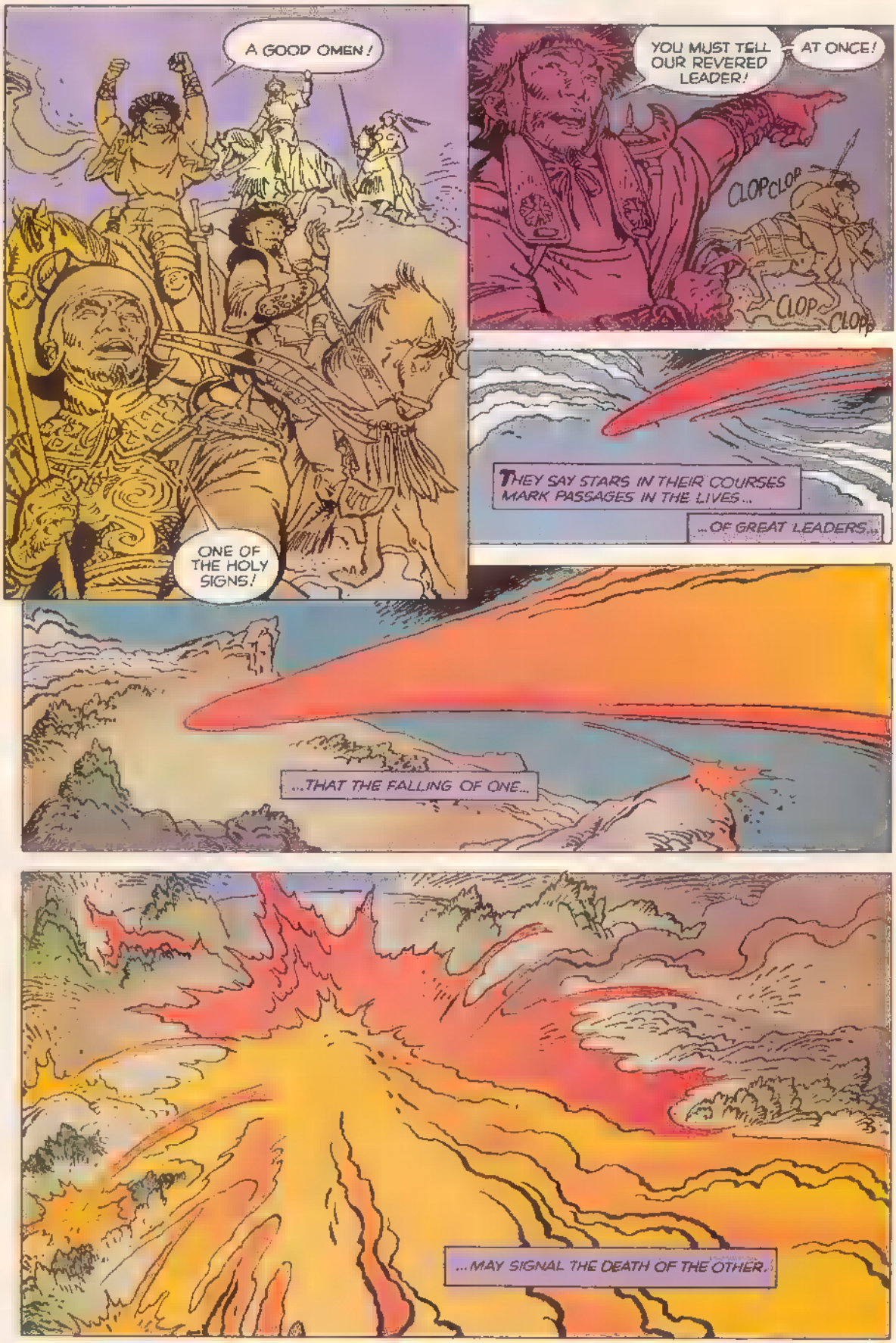
SSSSEEEOW!
I SHOULD SLEEP UNDER THE GROUND MORE OFTEN... IT'S SO RELAXING... GAVE ME A CHANCE TO GAIN A LITTLE PERSPECTIVE ON MY LIFE...
I'M GONNA START A NEW LIFE... GONNA TAKE A SHOT AT BEING THE PUBLIC MYSELF -- JUST PLAIN MR. SABER HAGEN!
...THE WHOLE WORLD -- INCLUDING THE PUNISHER -- THINKS I'M DEAD...AND MAYBE I AM! THE PUBLIC REALLY STOOD UP TO ME... I NO LONGER HAVE TO BE THE PUBLIC ENEMY...!


YOU GOT NO I.Q., NO CRED RATE, NO REFERENCES AND A NAME A SCIENCE-FICTION WRITER WOULD BALK AT...
DON'S CYBER MART
HELP WANTED
KWIK-CRED ACCEPTED!!!
...YOU'RE HIRED! CAN YOU START TOMORROW?
Y'SEE, SON... I NEED SOMEONE TO SELL THIS JUNK, WHILE I DO THE REALLY IMPORTANT JOB OF TINKERING ABOUND IN MY WORKSHOP...
YOU WON'T MAKE MUCH MONEY, 'CAUSE I DON'T... BUT I CAN FEED YOU AND GIVE YOU THE ROOM OVER THE SHOP...
...HOW DOES THAT SUIT YOU, MR. HAGEN?
CALL ME SABER... BOSS!

I COULD GET USED TO THIS "NORMAL LIFE". I'VE BEEN HERE TWO WEEKS AND HAVEN'T TURNED RED ONCE!
MODERN HARDWARE, SABER.. IT'S ALL JUNK.. THEY BUILD IT NOT TO LAST...
...YOUR AVERAGE GUY CAN'T REPAIR IT... SO HE BUYS NEW STUFF ALL THE TIME... STUPID, HUH?
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT, DON... "STUPID" IS THE WORD I MOST OFTEN THINK OF WHEN SOMEONE MENTIONS THE PUBLIC... D' YOU SEE THAT THING ON THE HOLO, LAST NIGHT...?
OH, ER-- GOOD MORNING! WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU GUYS?
WE'VE COME TO EXCHANGE SOME BULLETS FOR KWIK-CREDS!
WE'RE DOING A BARGAIN THIS MONTH.. EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT.. FOR JUST ONE BULLET!
LET ME HANDLE THIS, SABER..!
ALL RIGHT YOU PUNKS..! YOUR KIND ONLY UNDER-STAND ONE THING, SO I'M...
NO, DON, STAY BEHIND ME...! LET ME...
BUDDA
BUDDA
BUD
CHAKKA
CHAK
CHAK
YOU'VE... YOU'VE KILLED DON!

SNARL
I KNEW IT WAS TOO GOOD TO LAST!
...I WAS DESIGNED TO KILL...!
...AND BY SHOCK THAT'S WHAT I'M GONNA DO!
TO BE CONTINUED IN PUNISHER 2099 #25!


REFLECTIONS
OF A
FALLING
STAR
THE SKY IS FALLING!
UNNNGH!
JO DUFFY : WRITER
LEO DURAÑONA : ARTIST
H. FORMENTO : LETTERER
MIKE THOMAS : COLORIST
JOEY CAVALIERI : EDITOR
TOM DE FALCO : EDITOR IN CHIEF

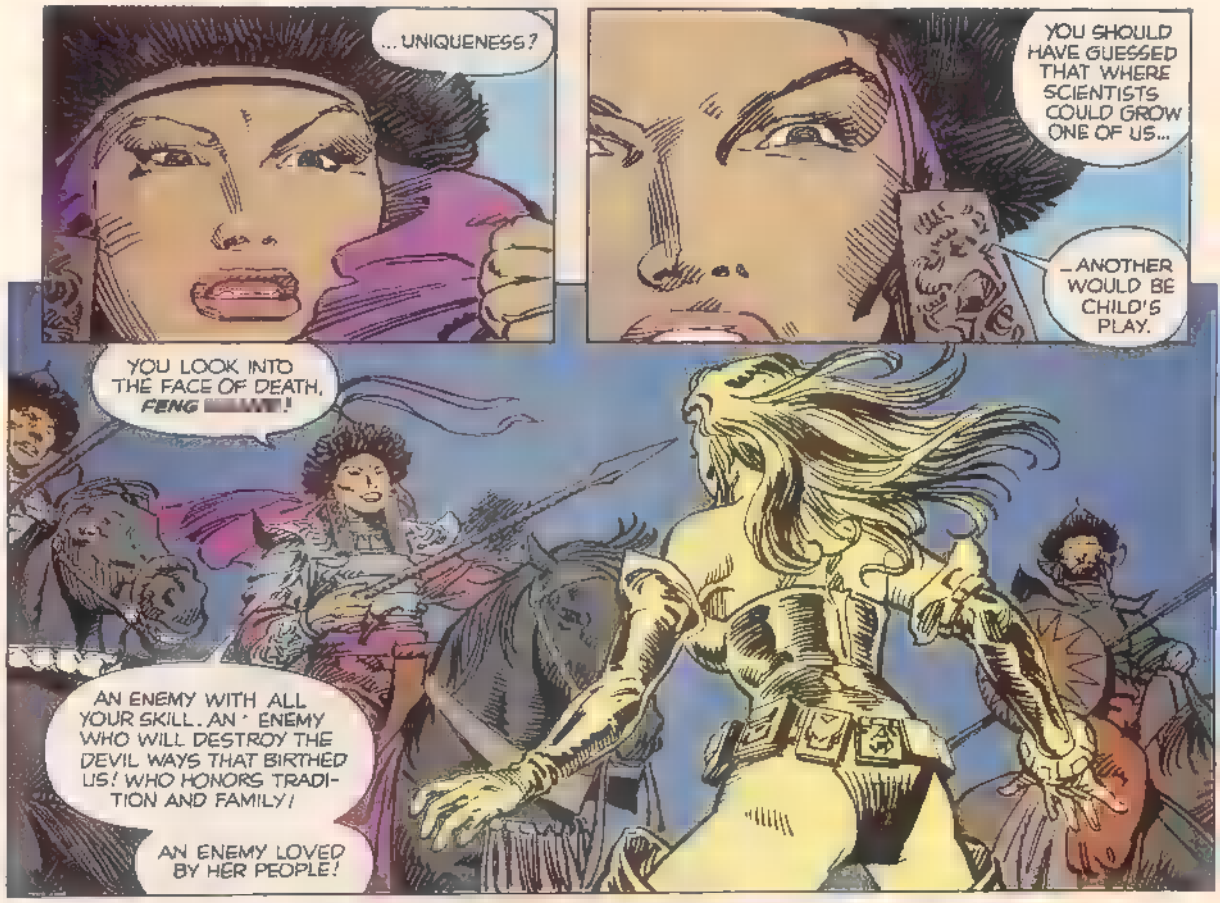

A GOOD OMEN!
ONE OF THE HOLY SIGNS!
YOU MUST TELL OUR REVERED LEADER!
AT ONCE!
CLOPCLOP
CLOP
CLOPP
THEY SAY STARS IN THEIR COURSES MARK PASSAGES IN THE LIVES...
...OF GREAT LEADERS...
...THAT THE FALLING OF ONE...
...MAY SIGNAL THE DEATH OF THE OTHER.

FALLING STARS ARE ALSO SEEN WHEN LEADERS HAVE ARRIVED...
POK
CLAAAANG
...BY BIRTH...
...OR VIA LESS TRADITIONAL MEANS.
THANK ALL SPIRITS AND SCIENTISTS MY ESCAPE POD WAS SOUND!

I WONDERED IF I WOULD EVER AGAIN WALK THE HILLS OF MY NATIVE CHINA...
...OR ANYPLACE ELSE ON EARTH!
I LIVE, BUT I AM HURT...
...IN MY BODY AND MY WEALTH...
...AND INJURED MOST GRAVELY IN MY PRIDE.
"DOOM, THAT LATVERIAN INSECT! HE SHAMED ME! HE THWARTED ME!
"IN MY SATELLITE WE FOUGHT--
"--FOR THE ARMOR OF A DEAD ALIEN, WITH ALL THE SECRETS IT MAY HAVE HELD!
"CERTAIN I COULD DEFEAT HIM, I FORCED A CRISIS...
AAOOOGA AAOOOGA
"ACTIVATED THE AUTODESTRUCT CODE...
"AND THE UPSTART BEAT ME! HE FLED MY SATELLITE; THE TREASURE WAS LEFT INSIDE...
"...AND I BARELY ESCAPED WITH MY LIFE!
"ONE DAY, DOOM WILL PAY!"
BUT NOT TODAY.
CLOPCLOP CLOP CLOP
EH...?

HERE, REVERED LEADER! THE STAR FELL HERE, JUST AS KUANTAI SAID!
BARBARIANS! ARMED! AT LEAST A DOZEN!
LOOK THERE!
A CREATURE FROM THE STARS?
THIS IS NO CELESTIAL PRESENCE!
IT IS THE DICTATOR FENG HUANG!
SLAVE TO TECHNOLOGY! OPPRESSOR OF THE PEOPLE!
THE GODS THEMSELVES HAD DELIVERED THE WARLORD TO OUR VENGEANCE!
OF WHAT CRIME DO YOU PEASANTS ACCUSE ME?

YOU ARE UNNATURAL! AN ABOMINATION! A THING GROWN IN A LABORATORY!
YOU EMBRACE THE DEVIL SCIENCES, BETRAYING OUR CULTURE AND YOUR OWN ANCESTORS!
FOOL! I HAVE NO ANCESTORS! I SHALL [redacted] THE FIRST OF ALL ANCESTORS!
MY CULTURE WAS [redacted] CELL CULTURE, MY HOMELAND THE INCUBATION CHAMBER OF THE CRECHE!
I AM THE GREATEST MONARCH THE WORLD WILL EVER KNOW! YOUR CHILDREN WILL FIGHT TO CLAIM ME AS AN ANCESTOR!
ARE YOU SO CERTAIN? OF YOUR FUTURE?
YOUR...
>GASP!<

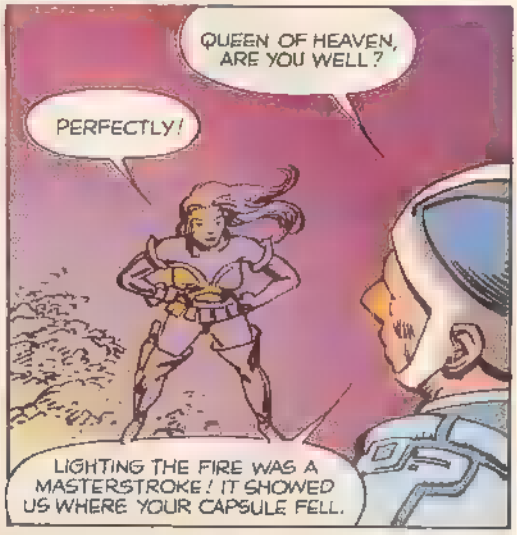

...UNIQUENESS?
YOU SHOULD HAVE GUESSED THAT WHERE SCIENTISTS COULD GROW ONE OF US...
...ANOTHER WOULD BE CHILD'S PLAY.
YOU LOOK INTO THE FACE OF DEATH, FENG [redacted]!
AN ENEMY WITH ALL YOUR SKILL. AN ENEMY WHO WILL DESTROY THE DEVIL WAYS THAT BIRTHED US! WHO HONORS TRADITION AND FAMILY!
AN ENEMY LOVED BY HER PEOPLE!

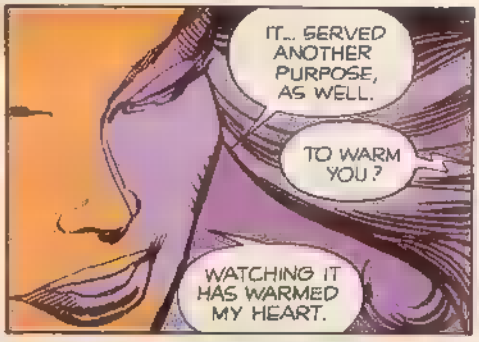
SENTIMENTAL...
...FOOL!!
NEEIGH

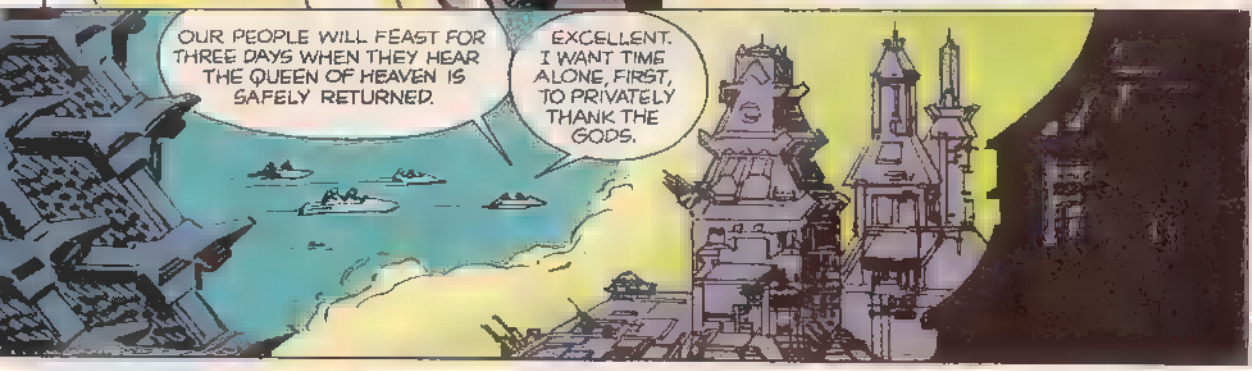
YOU ARE IMBECILES... CLOWNS!
WITHOUT COURAGE...
...OR STRATEGY.
SCARCELY WORTHY OF DEATH AT MY HAND!
A LEADER IS NOT TECHNOLOGY OR RELIGION..
...BUT ONE WHO KNOWS HOW TO ACT!
AAAiEEEE
DEMON! MONSTER!!
YOU SHALL NOT LIVE!

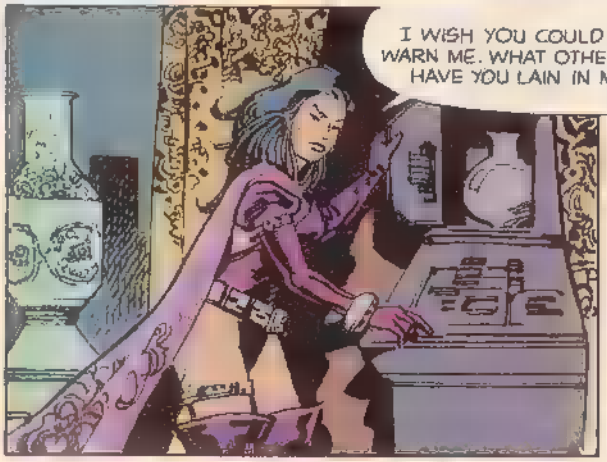
CLUMSY!
AND CARELESS!
IT SEEMS I'VE MASTERED SOME TRADITIONS MORE FULLY THAN YOURSELF!
I FIND YOU REDUNDANT.
CAN YOU KILL YOURSELF?
YOU ARE NOT ME!

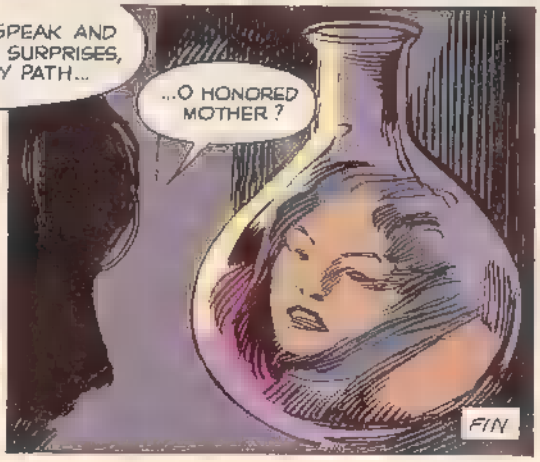
IT IS WELL I INCINERATED THOSE BODIES BEFORE MY MEN COULD SEE... AND SPEAK OF IT.!


QUEEN OF HEAVEN, ARE YOU WELL?
PERFECTLY!
LIGHTING THE FIRE WAS A MASTERSTROKE! IT SHOWED US WHERE YOUR CAPSULE FELL.


IT.. SERVED ANOTHER PURPOSE, AS WELL.
TO WARM YOU?
WATCHING IT HAS WARMED MY HEART.


OUR PEOPLE WILL FEAST FOR THREE DAYS WHEN THEY HEAR THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN IS SAFELY RETURNED.
EXCELLENT. I WANT TIME ALONE, FIRST, TO PRIVATELY THANK THE GODS.


I WISH YOU COULD SPEAK AND WARN ME. WHAT OTHER SURPRISES, HAVE YOU LAIN IN MY PATH...


...O HONORED MOTHER?
FIN

2099
25
DIRECT EDITION
02521>
7 59606 01158 2

FABLES OF THE DECONSTRUCTION

A STAN LEE presentation

DECONSTRUCTION OF THE FABLES

JOHN FRANCIS MOORE - STORY, *WARREN ELLIS* - DIALOGUE, *PAT BRODERICK* - PENCILS,
JOHN NYBERG - INKS, *JOHN COSTANZA* - LETTERS, *JOE ANDREANI* - COLORS,
JOEY CAVALIERI - EDITOR, *TOM DEFALCO* - CHIEF

TIME PLATFORM RUNNING: UPSTREAM

1999; ROME CRACKS AND BLEEDS LAVA, AND DOOM FEELS A PINCH OF REGRET -- SO CLOSE TO HIS OWN TIME, AND WHISKED AWAY...

2020; THE AIR THUNDERS AS A FLEET OF IRON MEN LIGHT THEIR AFTERBURNERS OVER THE SILENT NEW YORK CHESSBOARD...

2040; THE IRONFACED SENTINEL BURNS DOWN THE SHOUTING MUTANT REBEL, REDUCING HIM TO A CHROMED SKELETON...

CAUGHT IN THE UNDERTOW OF FUTURE HISTORY, DROWNING IN THEIR OWN DOUBTS ABOUT THEIR IDENTITIES, THE KINGS IN STEEL STRIKE SPARKS OFF THE OTHERS' ARMORS.

THE DOOM IN SILVER, HEAD FULL OF INCOMPLETE AND OFTEN ALIEN MEMORIES, WEARING TOO YOUNG A BODY, IS DISCOVERING SOMETHING LIKE FEAR.

2060; CASTLE DOOM DROPS LIKE A HOUSE OF CARDS UNDER FOREIGN MISSILES...

TIME PLATFORM RUNNING, UPSTREAM

CRETIN!

YOUR MALFUNCTIONING TIME ARRAYS ARE SENDING US THROUGH HISTORY TOO FAST, AND UNANCHORED!

YOUR IDIOCY WILL SEE US BOTH DEAD AT THE END OF TIME!

AAAA

I...

... ADMIT IT, BLAST YOU.

THERE IS, AS I RECALL, AN ANSWER.

EXPAND YOUR ARMOR'S ENERGY FIELDS. SLAVE ALL OTHER POWER NEEDS TO IT.

I EXPAND MINE TO MEET IT.

THE RHOMBOID REALITY ENVELOPE THAT THE TIME PLATFORM CREATES TO CONVEY US MUST RUPTURE!

TRAVEL ANOMALY REGISTERED: EMERGENCY TIMEDUMP

RANDOM DROP: DECADE 2080 - 2089

I... RECOGNIZE THIS PLACE.

I TOO.

THIS IS THE PACIFIC FORTRESS.

OVER A DECADE AGO.